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ABSTRACT

Chinese folk art, known as "the small skills of carving insects," differs from artworks produced by skilled or highly educated Chinese artisans. Folk art is defined as works that are created by ordinary citizens and that often are items designed for personal use. The designation, "the small skills of carving insects," occurred as a result of the simple tools, knives, and scissors utilized to create this type of artwork. Activities contained in this packet were designed to assist exhibition viewers in learning about the vitality of these art pieces, which is derived from their simplicity, boldness, color, and symbolic meanings. Knowledge of this symbolism can help students understand the hopes, fears, joys, and sorrows that characterize the daily lives of rural China residents. The included activity sheets contain lessons about the use of: (1) motifs; (2) symbols; (3) homonyms; (4) legends; (5) different types of art materials; and (6) folk art exhibitions. Answer sheets and drawings are included. Attached is the original brochure of the Chinese folk art festival which these materials were designed to supplement. (JHP)

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Chinese Folk Art — The Small Skills of Carving Insects

ACTIVITY SHEET

INTRODUCTION

THERE IS NO GENERAL AGREEMENT ON WHAT CONSTITUTES FOLK ART, ALTHOUGH THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE KINDS OF THINGS ONE SEES IN A COLLECTION SUCH AS "CHINESE FOLK ART: THE SMALL SKILLS OF CARVING INSECTS" AND WHAT ONE SEES IN SUCH COLLECTIONS AS THE FREER GALLERY ARE READILY APPARENT. THE ITEMS IN THE COLLECTION ARE THINGS MADE NOT BY THE HIGHLY SKILLED ARTISANS EMPLOYED BY THE PALACE NOR BY THE PAINTER-POET MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATED SCHOLAR CLASS. THESE ARE ITEMS MADE BY THE ORDINARY FOLK OF CHINA, ITEMS MADE FOR THE MOST PART, FOR PERSONAL USE. THESE ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO AS "THE SMALL SKILLS OF CARVING INSECTS" BY THE EDUCATED CLASS BECAUSE OF THE SIMPLE TOOLS, KNIVES AND SCISSORS, USED TO MAKE THEM. IT IS THIS SIMPLICITY THAT GIVES CHINESE FOLK ART ITEMS THEIR VITALITY. EACH ITEM IS NOT ONLY BOLD AND COLORFUL, BUT PERMEATED WITH SYMBOLIC MEANING.

THE ACTIVITIES IN THIS PACKET ARE AIMED AT HELPING VIEWERS TO UNDERSTAND, FIRST OF ALL, THE UTILITARIAN AND DECORATIVE NATURE OF THE ITEMS, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE SYMBOLISM IN THE ITEMS. IT IS THROUGH AN APPRECIATION OF THE SYMBOLISM THAT ONE CAN COME TO UNDERSTAND THE HOPES, FEARS, JOYS AND SORROWS THAT CHARACTERIZE THE DAILY LIVES OF THE ORDINARY RESIDENTS OF RURAL CHINA.

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#1

TO THINK ABOUT

1. Think about a picture or painting that you might have seen in a museum. What kind of person painted the picture? Was it something she/he painted for her/his family to use? Who might have used the picture?

2. Now think of something that is in a house of someone you know that was made by that person or that was made by a friend or relative of that person. Perhaps it is an afghan or a dried flower wreath or even a stool or chair.

3. What are some of the differences that you can think of between the picture you are thinking of and the item in the house? Why might each have been created? Who was supposed to use and enjoy each thing?

4. The kinds of items that you are about to see are more like the thing you thought of in question #2. They are things made for use at home or in small towns (villages). Do you have any ideas about what things might be included?

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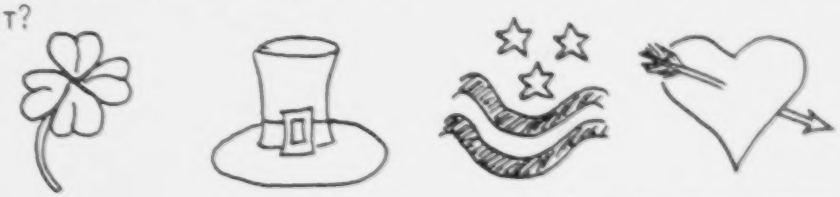
ACTIVITY SHEET

#2

MOTIFS

THE ITEMS MADE BY RESIDENTS OF RURAL CHINA ARE OFTEN DECORATED WITH COLORFUL DESIGNS. THESE DESIGNS ARE NOT SIMPLY THINGS WHICH LOOK PRETTY, BUT ARE THINGS WHICH HAVE A MEANING WHICH IS UNDERSTOOD BY ANY OTHER PERSON WHO SEES THEM. HERE ARE SOME MOTIFS (DESIGNS) WHICH HAVE MEANING TO ALMOST EVERY AMERICAN WHO SEES THEM.

A. LOOK AT THESE MOTIFS. WHAT DO THEY MEAN? DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE ORIGIN OF EACH MOTIF IS? DOES IT COME FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY? WOULD THE OTHER STUDENTS IN YOUR CLASS KNOW WHAT THESE MOTIFS MEAN? DOES ANY MOTIF HAVE A STORY THAT GOES WITH IT?



drawings by Caryn White

B. ON THE NEXT PAGE ARE SOME MOTIFS WHICH ARE FOUND ON CHINESE FOLK ART ITEMS. LOOK AT THE MOTIFS AND TRY TO GUESS WHAT EACH ONE IS. ON PAGE 3 OF THIS ACTIVITY IS A LIST OF THE MOTIFS. CAN YOU MATCH THE PICTURE WITH ITS NAME?

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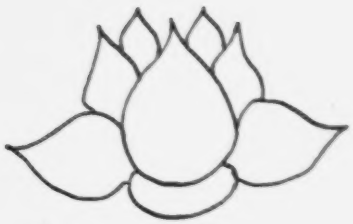

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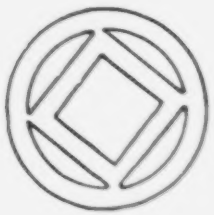

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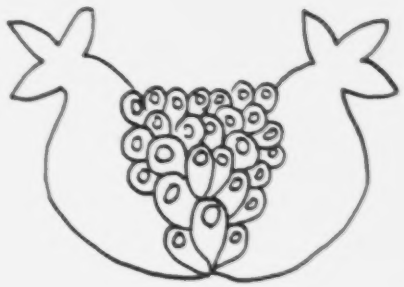

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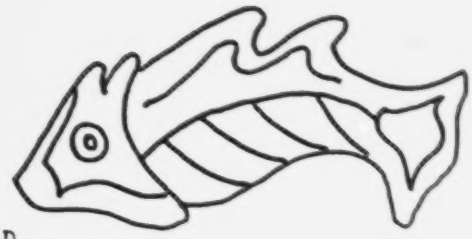

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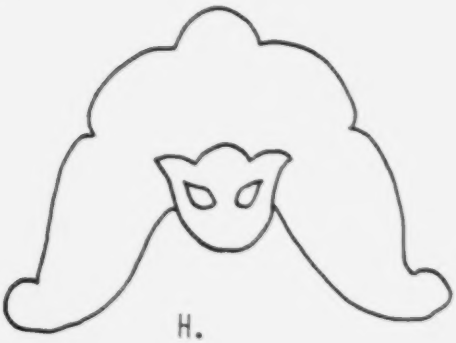

H.

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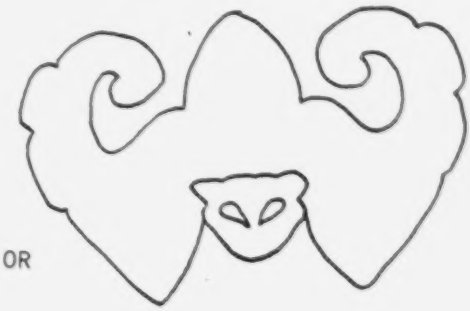

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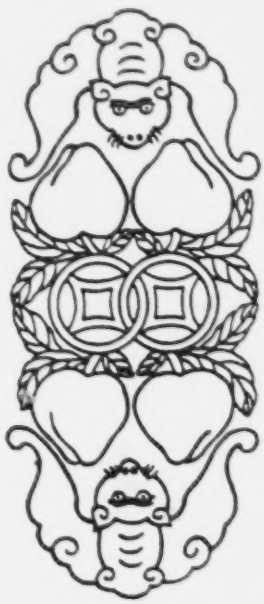
ACTIVITY SHEET

1. PEACH 2. CARP (FISH) 3. LOTUS FLOWER 4. COIN 5. BAT 6. POMEGRANATE
7. TIGER

C. NOW LOOK AT THE DESIGN BELOW. IT HAS THREE ELEMENTS (PARTS) AND EACH IS A MOTIF WHICH YOU SAW ON PAGE 2 OF THIS ACTIVITY. CAN YOU SEE THEM? WHAT ARE THEY?



from
Crafts of China
by Michael Carter
p. 47

AFTER YOU FINISH THE OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THIS PACKET, LOOK AT THIS DESIGN AGAIN. WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#3

SYMBOLS

A SYMBOL IS SOMETHING THAT STANDS FOR SOMETHING ELSE. WE USE MANY SYMBOLS IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES. MANY OF OUR SYMBOLS HAVE OLD MEANINGS THAT WERE FORGOTTEN A LONG TIME AGO.

A. THINK OF THE WORD "LUCKY." DRAW A PICTURE OF IT. CAN YOU? WHAT DID YOU DRAW? DID YOU DRAW A PICTURE OF LUCKY OR SOMETHING THAT WAS A SYMBOL FOR LUCK?

B. WHAT DO THE FOLLOWING SYMBOLS MEAN?

A RABBIT'S FOOT — A SKULL AND CROSS BONES

A BLACK CAT — A BROKEN MIRROR

C. COLORS ALSO HAVE SYMBOLIC MEANING. WHAT DO THESE COLORS MEAN IN OUR CULTURE?

GREEN — WHITE — BLACK

RED AND GREEN TOGETHER

YOU WILL SEE MANY SYMBOLS IN CHINESE FOLK ART. OF COURSE THE SYMBOLS ARE USED BECAUSE THEY REPRESENT THINGS THAT WERE IMPORTANT TO THE PEOPLE WHO MADE THE ITEMS. AS YOU COME TO UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE SYMBOLS, YOU WILL ALSO COME TO UNDERSTAND THE THINGS THAT WERE IMPORTANT TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO MADE THE FOLK ART ITEMS.

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#4

SYMBOLS AND HOMONYMS

MANY CHINESE SYMBOLS ARE USED BECAUSE THE SOUND OF THE WORD FOR THE SYMBOL IS A HOMONYM (A WORD THAT SOUNDS THE SAME AS ANOTHER WORD) FOR A WORD WITH A GOOD OR LUCKY MEANING.

A. MATCH THE WORD FOR THE SYMBOL WITH THE WORD FOR ITS MEANING IN CHINESE

SYMBOL	PRONUNCIATION
BAT	FU
FISH	YU
SEED	ZI
DEER	LU
CARP	LI

MEANING	PRONUNCIATION
SON	ZI
PROFIT	LI
OFFICIAL SALARY	LU
LUCK	FU
PLENTY	YU

B. FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. A BAT DESIGN MEANS _____.
2. A PICTURE OF A DEER ON AN OBJECT MEANS THAT ONE HOPES FOR _____.
3. A PICTURE OF FRUIT WITH MANY SEEDS IS A WISH FOR _____.

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ACTIVITY SHEET

4. FISH DESIGNS INDICATE A WISH FOR _____.

5. A CARP (A KIND OF FISH, SIMILAR TO A LARGE GOLDFISH) MEANS _____.

C. PHRASES WITH HOMONYMS

WORD	PRONUNCIATION
DATE (THE FRUIT)	ZAO
CHESTNUT	LI
GOLD FISH	JIN YU MAN TANG

WORD	PRONUNCIATION
GOLD	JIN
PROFIT	LI
HALL	TANG
EARLY	ZAO
FILL	MAN
JADE	YU

1. AT SOME WEDDINGS, WELL-WISHERS THROW DATES AND CHESTNUTS OUT IN FRONT OF THE BRIDE AND GROOM. THEY ARE WISHING THEM _____.

2. PICTURES OF GOLDFISH CAN ALSO BE A WISH THAT _____.

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#5

LEGENDS

LEGENDS PROVIDE A GREAT DEAL OF MATERIAL FOR THE FOLK ARTIST. IN ADDITION TO THE SYMBOLIC MOTIFS THAT YOU HAVE DISCOVERED, THERE ARE MANY MOTIFS WHICH ARE FAMILIAR TO RURAL CHINESE THROUGH LEGEND.

A. OUR CULTURE HAS MANY LEGENDS OR FAIRY TALES WHICH MOST OF US KNOW AND ARE FAMILIAR WITH. READ THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTIONS OF MOTIFS THAT MIGHT APPEAR ON ITEMS FOUND IN A HOME, USUALLY IN A CHILD'S ROOM. WHAT LEGEND IS EACH ASSOCIATED WITH?

A BOY AND GIRL HOLDING A BUCKET, WALKING UP A HILL TOWARD A WELL

A LITTLE GIRL WEARING A RED, HOODED CAPE, CARRYING A BASKET

AN EGG-SHAPED CHARACTER SITTING ON A WALL

A YOUNG WOMAN LEANING OVER A BALCONY LOOKING DOWN AT A YOUNG MAN

AN EXTREMELY TALL MAN IN A PLAID SHIRT, HOLDING A AXE, WITH A BLUE OX BEHIND HIM

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ACTIVITY SHEET

B. DID EVERYONE IN YOUR CLASS OR GROUP KNOW ALL OF THESE? DID ANYONE HAVE TO EXPLAIN WHAT ANY ONE OF THESE MEANS OR DID EVERYONE KNOW?

C. MANY OF THE DESIGNS USED IN CHINESE FOLK ART COME FROM STORIES AND LEGENDS AS FAMILIAR TO THE CHINESE AS THE LEGENDS AND STORIES DESCRIBED ABOVE ARE TO US.

SOME OF THE STORIES WHICH ARE THE SOURCES OF THE DESIGN MOTIFS IN CHINESE FOLK ART ARE LISTED BELOW:

CHANG-E AND THE ELIXIR OF IMMORTALITY

THE RABBIT IN THE MOON

THE TALE OF MONKEY

THE WEAVING MAID AND THE HERD BOY

THE WATER SELLER

THE MARRIAGE OF RAT

THE WHITE SERPENT

THESE STORIES MAY BE FOUND IN THE FOLLOWING BOOKS (AND OTHERS):

WALLS, JAN AND YVONNE, CLASSICAL CHINESE MYTHS (HONG KONG) 1984.
KUO, LOUISE AND YUAN HSI, CHINESE FOLK TALES (MILLBRAE, CA)1976.
ROBERTS, MOSS, CHINESE FAIRY TALES AND FANTASIES (NEW YORK) 1979.
SANDERS, TAO TAO LIU, DRAGONS, GODS AND SPIRITS FROM CHINESE MYTHOLOGY (NEW YORK) 1980.

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#6

MATERIALS

Chinese folk art uses several media (medium: the material used to make something; media: plural of medium). The exhibition "Chinese Folk Art: The Small Skills of Carving Insects" has items in five media: embroidery, shadow puppets, paper cuts, batik and prints.

A. Match the materials and implements (tools) below with the art forms. Some may be used more than once.

EMBROIDERY PAPER CUTS SHADOW PUPPETS BATIK WOODBLOCK PRINTS

PAPER SCISSORS THREAD CLOTH LEATHER DYE KNIFE NEEDLE
PAINT INK WOOD WATER BAMBOO

B. Find the following five items. Match each to its medium.

PIGGY SHOES DOOR GUARDIANS ELEPHANT BEDSPREAD TEAPOT

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ACTIVITY SHEET

C. LOOK THROUGH THE ITEMS IN THE EXHIBITION. OF WHICH MEDIA WERE ITEMS PRIMARILY FOR PERSONAL USE AT HOME MADE? OF WHICH MEDIA WERE ITEMS FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION OR ENTERTAINMENT MADE? WHICH WERE FOR BOTH?

PAPER CUTS:	HOME	PUBLIC	BOTH
EMBROIDERY:	HOME	PUBLIC	BOTH
BATIK :	HOME	PUBLIC	BOTH
SHADOW PUPPETS:	HOME	PUBLIC	BOTH
WOODBLOCK PRINTS:	HOME	PUBLIC	BOTH

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Chinese Folk Art The Small Skills of Carving Insects

ACTIVITY SHEET
#7

FINDING THINGS

As you go through the exhibition, look for some of these things and answer the question(s) about it.

1. Find the apron with the "five poisons" (poisonous insects and animals) on it. What five insects or animals are on it?

2. Find the rat in the cat's stomach. Is it a shadow puppet? A wood block print? A paper cut? Embroidery? What is the story of the cat and the rat? What did you learn about how a girl found a husband in old China?

3. Find the three-legged toad. What is it (what medium) ?

4. Find the babies in the tiger's ears. What medium is the item?

5. Find the "ten occupation of women." What are some of the occupations?

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ACTIVITY SHEET

6. FIND THE RABBITS IN THE KITCHEN. WHAT MEDIUM IS THIS ITEM? WHY ARE THE RABBITS IN THE KITCHEN?

7. FIND THE BOY RIDING THE QILIN (PRONOUNCED CHEE-LIN). WHAT MYTHICAL ANIMAL DO WE HAVE IN OUR CULTURE THAT IS SIMILAR TO THE QILIN? (THE QILIN IS KIND.)

8. FIND THE PICTURE OF "PIGSY." WHAT MEDIUM IS IT?

9. FIND THE EMPEROR'S HEAD. WHAT IS IT? WHY IS IT UNUSUAL?

10. LIST FOUR OF THE PUNISHMENTS IN CHINESE HADES. WHAT MEDIUM ARE THEY DEPICTED IN?

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#8

FINDING MOTIFS

WISHES FOR FOUR THINGS - WEALTH, LUCK, MANY CHILDREN AND HEALTH AND A LONG LIFE - ARE REFLECTED IN THE DESIGNS WHICH WE HAVE SEEN. LOOK THROUGH THE EXHIBITION AGAIN AND SEE HOW MANY OF THE FOLLOWING MOTIFS YOU CAN FIND. IF YOU WISH, WRITE THE NUMBER AND THE NAME OF THE ITEM AS WELL.

WEALTH	LUCK	CHILDREN	LONG LIFE/HEALTH
COIN	BAT	* POMEGRANATE	PEACH
FISH		* WATERMELON	LOTUS
DEER		* LOTUS	TIGER (PROTECTS)
		* SUNFLOWER	INSECTS (PROTECTS)

* FRUIT OR FLOWERS WITH MANY SEEDS (SEED = SON; MANY SEEDS = MANY SONS)

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ITEM OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING?

PAPER CUT

EMBROIDERY

SHADOW PUPPET

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#9

AFTERWARDS

1. TRY TO REMEMBER SOME OF THE ITEMS IN THE EXHIBITION. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

   - WHAT IS THE COLOR OF LUCK AND HAPPINESS?
   - WHAT ANIMALS OFFER PROTECTION?
   - WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SYMBOLS YOU REMEMBER? LIST THEM.
   - WHICH OF THESE HAVE THEIR ORIGINS IN SOUND (HOMONYMS)?
   - WHICH OF THESE HAVE THEIR ORIGIN IN ASSOCIATION?
   - WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MYTHS OR LEGENDS THAT YOU REMEMBER?
   - WHICH ITEM(S) REPRESENT MODERN CONCERNS?
   - WHICH ITEM(S) REPRESENT TRADITIONAL CONCERNS?

2. WHAT ARE SOME IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE LIVES OF THE RURAL CHINESE WHO MADE THESE ITEMS?

3. WHAT ARE THE HOPES THAT ARE REFLECTED IN THESE ITEMS? THE FEARS?

4. WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT RURAL CHINESE SOCIETY FROM VISITING THE EXHIBITION?

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#10
ACTIVITY

PLAN A FOLK ART EXHIBITION OF ITEMS REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN FOLK ART. LIST SOME OF THE MEDIA YOU WOULD SHOW IN THE EXHIBITION. LIST THE BELIEFS, HOPES, FEARS, MYTHS, LEGENDS OR FAIRY TALES THAT COULD BE REPRESENTED BY ITEMS IN THE EXHIBITION. (DON'T LIMIT YOURSELF TO OLD OR TRADITIONAL ITEMS... EVEN HANDMADE THINGS THAT YOUNG PEOPLE USED AS PART OF A SUB-CULTURE COULD BE INCLUDED... SUCH AS DECORATED TENNIS SHOES). WHAT WOULD SOMEONE FROM ANOTHER CULTURE BE ABLE TO LEARN FROM THE THINGS YOU HAVE SELECTED? WHAT WOULD SHE/HE NOT BE ABLE TO LEARN?

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ACTIVITY SHEET

ANSWERS

#1

1. STUDENTS MIGHT BE DIRECTED TOWARD THINKING OF A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST, EITHER ONE WHO SOLD HER/HIS WORKS OR ONE WHO WAS PATRONIZED BY A WEALTHY FAMILY. THE KIND OF ART WE ARE THINKING OF SHOULD BE ART EITHER MEANT FOR PURCHASE BY THE WEALTHY OR FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY. IT HAS NO UTILITARIAN PURPOSE.
2. ANY OF THE THINGS STUDENTS MIGHT COME UP WITH SUCH AS HANDMADE CLOTHING, AFGHANS OR BEDSPREADS, PILLOWS, CABINETS OR FURNITURE, EMBROIDERED TABLE CLOTHS, ETC. IS AN ACCEPTABLE ANSWER.
3. SOME OF THE DIFFERENCES SHOULD BE THAT THE SECOND ITEM WAS MADE TO BE USED BY THE ARTISAN OR BY A FRIEND OR RELATIVE, THAT IT WAS NOT MADE TO LAST FOREVER OR IN THE HOPE THAT THE CREATOR WOULD ACHIEVE FAME, THAT IT WAS MEANT TO BE ENJOYED BY THE FAMILY IN WHOSE HOME IT IS USED.
4. DIRECT THE STUDENTS TOWARD SMALLER ITEMS... CLOTHING, DOOR DECORATIONS, BED COVERS, PILLOWS, ETC.

#2

A. FOUR LEAF CLOVER, PILGRIM HAT, STARS AND STRIPES, VALENTINE
ELICIT RESPONSES FROM THE CHILDREN ON THE MEANING AND ORIGINS OF SOME OF THESE MOTIFS. STUDENTS MAY WANT TO TELL THE STORY OF BETSY ROSS OR TO DESCRIBE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 50 STARS AND 13 STRIPES. SOME MAY WANT TO TELL THE

ANSWERS P. 1

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ACTIVITY SHEET

STORY OF THE FIRST THANKSGIVING OR OF ST. VALENTINE. THE CLOSE ASSOCIATION OF THE FOUR LEAF CLOVER AND "LUCK OF THE IRISH" OR THE ROMAN ORIGIN OF SAINT VALENTINE MIGHT SERVE AS THE BEGINNING OF A DISCUSSION ON THE DIVERSE ROOTS OF OUR HERITAGE AS OPPOSED TO THE CHINESE HERITAGE.

B. A. - 3. LOTUS FLOWER; B.-4. COIN (OLD CHINESE COINS WERE ROUND WITH SQUARE HOLES IN THE CENTER); C.-6. POMEGRANATE; D.-2. CARP; F.-1. PEACH; G.-7. TIGER; H.-5 BAT.

C. BAT, PAIR OF PEACHES, PAIR OF COINS, PAIR OF PEACHES, BAT
MEANING: BAT=LUCK, PEACH=LONG LIFE, COIN=WEALTH: LUCK-LONG LIFE-WEALTH

#3. B. LUCK, DANGER, BAD LUCK, BAD LUCK

C. ENVY OR WEALTH; PURITY; MOURNING, SADNESS OR EVIL; CHRISTMAS

#4. A.
BAT = LUCK
FISH = PLENTY
SEED = SON
DEER = OFFICIAL SALARY (A JOB AS AN OFFICIAL IN IMPERIAL CHINA)
CARP = PROFIT

B. 1. LUCK 2. AN OFFICIAL SALARY 3. MANY SONS 4. PLENTY 5. PROFITS

C. 1. EARLY PROFITS
2. GOLD AND JADE FILL THE HALLS

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Chinese Folk Art — The Small Skills of Carving Insects

ACTIVITY SHEET

#5 A. JACK AND JILL; LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD; HUMPTY DUMPTY; ROMEO AND JULIET; PAUL BUNYAN

THE TEACHER MAY WISH TO BRING IN ILLUSTRATED VERSIONS OF MOTHER GOOSE AND FAIRY TALES AND SHOW THE PICTURES INSTEAD OF READING THE DESCRIPTIONS.

THE TEACHER MAY ALSO WISH TO ASSIGN THE CHINESE FAIRY TALES MENTIONED HERE TO VARIOUS CHILDREN AND HAVE THEM REPORT TO THE CLASS BEFORE DOING MORE OF THE ACTIVITIES.

#6 A. EMBROIDERY: THREAD, NEEDLE, CLOTH, SCISSORS
PAPER CUTS: PAPER, SCISSORS, KNIFE (ALSO PAINT OR INK)
SHADOW PUPPETS: LEATHER, WATER, KNIFE, DYE, PAINT, THREAD, BAMBOO
BATIK: CLOTH, DYE, PAPER, WATER
WOODBLOCK PRINTS: WOOD, KNIFE, PAPER, PAINT OR INK

B. PIGGY SHOES: EMBROIDERY; DOOR GUARDIANS: WOODBLOCK PRINT; ELEPHANT: SHADOW PUPPET; BEDSPREAD: BATIK; TEAPOT: PAPER CUT

C. PAPER CUTS: BOTH
EMBROIDERY: HOME
BATIK: HOME
SHADOW PUPPETS: PUBLIC
WOODBLOCK PRINTS: BOTH

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ACTIVITY SHEET

#7

1. SNAKE, LIZARD, SPIDER (OR TOAD), SCORPION, CENTIPEDE
2. PAPER CUT
3. SHADOW PUPPET
4. EMBROIDERY
5. SPINNING AND WEAVING COTTON
6. SHADOW PUPPET; TO BE COOKED FOR DINNER
7. SIMILAR TO THE UNICORN (EXCEPT THE QILIN BRINGS SONS TO CHILDLESS COUPLES)
8. PAPERCUT
9. SHADOW PUPPET; IT SHOWS A FULL FACE NOT A PROFILE
10. POUNDING, DISEMBOWELMENT, BOILING, FRYING

#9

1. RED; TIGER, PIG, INSECTS; BAT, PEACH, LOTUS, ETC.; BAT, DEER, CARP, SEEDS; WATERMELON, POMEGRANATE, LOTUS POD (ALL HAVE MANY SEEDS...REPRESENT MANY SONS)
2. MARRIAGE, CHILDBIRTH, HAVING A SON BECOME AN OFFICIAL; HOLIDAYS (IE. NEW YEAR'S)
3. WEALTH, LUCK, LONG LIFE, MANY CHILDREN; ILLNESS, LOSS OF CHILDREN

ANSWERS P. 4

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Caryn White

Chinese Folk Arts

FESTIVAL

Films
Performances
Workshop
Lectures
Celebrations

DECEMBER 11, 1986 — MARCH 8, 1987

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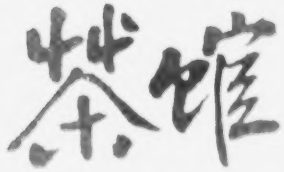
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Films

Series of four recently made feature films (English subtitles) illustrating various aspects of the daily life, the people and the spirit of China, past and present. Thursday evening films, 7:30; Saturday afternoon films, 2:30. All films will be held in the Lecture Hall, Yale University Art Gallery, Chapel and York Streets, New Haven, CT. Suggested donation: $3.00; students: $2.00.



Thursday, January 15
Saturday, January 17
"TEAHOUSE" 1982
A study of the lives of the owner and customers of a Beijing teahouse over a fifty-year period beginning in the late Qing dynasty (1890's), based on the 1957 play by Lao She. Lecture by Marston Anderson, Assistant Professor of East Asian Languages and Literature, Yale.

Thursday, January 22
Saturday, January 24
"THE DOLLMAKER" 1983
A period drama chronicles the efforts of Chang and his sister to carry on their family's two hundred year old tradition of making clay figurines.

Thursday, January 29
Saturday, January 31
"CHILLY NIGHT" 1984
A love story set in wartime Chongqing, based on the novel by China's foremost living writer, Ba Jin. Lecture by Marston Anderson.

Thursday, February 5
Saturday, February 7
"NEIGHBORS" 1982
An irreverent look at the problems of urban life in modern China. Lecture by Julianne Cobb, Department of Anthropology, Yale.

DOCUMENTARY FILM SERIES
A series of one-hour documentary films depicting life in rural China will run during the exhibition. Films will be shown twice daily (11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.) in the Gallery and are free and open to the public.

Performances

Sunday afternoon performances at the Yale Art Gallery Lecture Hall begin at 3:00 p.m. Other times noted separately.

Sunday, January 18*
SHADOW PUPPET PLAYS
"A Tour through the Chinese Hades," "Fifteen Honest Coins," "100,000 Borrowed Arrows" Performed by the Yueh Long Shadow Puppet Troupe

Sunday, February 1*
TRADITIONAL CHINESE MUSIC
A performance on the Qin, the Chinese zither, by Wu Wenguang

Friday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.
EXCERPTS FROM "THE MONKEY KING" OPERA FOR CHILDREN
Guan Hong-jun and Michelle Ehlers introduce the costume, make-up, acrobatics and gesture of Chinese opera and perform scenes from "The Monkey King." Especially suitable for children and their families.
Art Gallery Lecture Hall.
Suggested donation:
$2.00 adults
$1.00 children

Sunday, February 8*
BEIJING OPERA PERFORMANCE
Scenes from "The White Serpent" and "The King's Farewell," performed by the Yeh Yu Opera Troupe

Sunday, February 15*
WU SHU MARTIAL ARTS
A performance of Chinese Martial Arts by Mark Salzman

*Subscriptions for the Sunday performances are available at $15.00 ($10.00 for students). A limited number of tickets for individual performances will be available at the door for $5.00 each. Send check to Asian Art, Yale Art Gallery, 2006 Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520. For more information, call (203) 432-0629.

Workshop

Saturday, January 31, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
CHINESE FOLK ARTS: A WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS
A hands-on workshop sponsored by the Yale East Asian Outreach Program and Creative Arts Workshop to provide teachers with background materials on the legends, folk tales and beliefs reflected in Chinese Folk Art, as well as materials and methods for classroom application of the techniques used to create the artifacts. Includes a tour of the exhibition.
Creative Arts Workshop, 80 Audobon St., New Haven.
Advanced registration (includes materials): $18.00 ($20.00 at the door). Send check to East Asian Outreach Program, Box 13A Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520. For more information, call (203)432-3429

Lectures

A series of lectures illustrating and elaborating upon the themes, symbolism and folklore associated with the Chinese Folk Arts seen in the exhibition. Gallery Talks are held on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Yale Art Gallery. Times and locations of other lectures are noted separately.

January 13 and 15
"Chinese Folk Art: The Small Skills of Carving Insects"
Mary G. Neill, Director designate and Curator, Asian Art, Yale University Art Gallery.

January 20 and 22
"Legends in Chinese Folk Art"
Lisa Rotondo McCord , History of Art, Yale University.

Sunday, January 25, 3:00 p.m.
"Chinese Rural Society and Its Religious Reflections"
Helen Siu, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Yale University.
* Art Gallery Lecture Hall.

January 27 and 29
"Symbolism in Chinese Folk Art"
Nancy Berliner, author of Chinese Folk Art: The Small Skills of Carving Insects, and collector of Chinese folk art.

Wednesday, February 11, 12:15 p.m.
"Literature in Chinese Folk Arts"
Marston Anderson, Assistant Professor, East Asian Languages and Literature, Yale University.

February 24 and 26
"Chinese Shadow Puppets"
Melissa Thompson, Asian Art, Yale Art Gallery.

Celebrations

Saturday, January 31
CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION
Yale-China Association, 442 Temple Street, New Haven, CT (203) 432-0880

Saturday, February 14, 1 - 3p.m.
LANTERN FESTIVAL: A CELEBRATION FOR CHILDREN

An afternoon of stories, games, crafts, lantern-making and food to help children understand and enjoy the customs which mark the end of the Chinese New Year season (ages 6-12).
Creative Arts Workshop, 80 Audobon Street, New Haven, CT 06511
(Co-sponsored by Yale East Asian Outreach Program)
Registration: $4.00 per child. Send checks to Creative Arts Workshop. For more information, call (203) 562-4927

The CHINESE FOLK ARTS FESTIVAL is sponsored by the Yale University Art Gallery; the Council on East Asian Studies and the East Asian Outreach Program, Yale University; The Yale-China Association; The Connecticut Commission on the Arts, and the Creative Arts Workshop of New Haven. It is held in conjunction with the exhibit, CHINESE FOLK ART: THE SMALL SKILLS OF CARVING INSECTS, at the Yale University Art Gallery December 11, 1986 through March 8, 1987. Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Thursday until 8 p.m.), and Sunday 2 to 5 p.m.

Yale University Art Gallery
Chapel and York Streets
New Haven, CT
(203) 432-2600